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News Release

John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit Marks Veterans Day 2013

For Immediate Release

(Detroit) The Detroit VA Healthcare System will honor Detroit-area Veterans, including hundreds of its own staff members, patients and volunteers, on **Friday, November 8, 2013**.

The medical center's annual Veterans Day event will take place at 11:00 a.m. in the medical center atrium on the 1st floor of the medical center. The presentation portion of the program will feature remarks from **U.S. Congressman John D. Dingell**, a WW II Veteran and the longest serving member of the U.S. Congress, and **Rich Luterman**, Chief Meteorologist of Fox2 Detroit, also a Veteran.

"On Veterans Day, we pause to honor all of the men and women who have fought in our wars and stood watch around the world through the restless respites from war we call peace," said Annette Walker, Associate Director of the medical center and a Veteran herself. "It's a day of remembrance, gratitude, and encouragement." Walker will also speak during the program.

When it opened in 1996, the Detroit VA was named in honor of **Congressman Dingell**, elected in 2012 to his 29th term in the U.S. House of Representatives. "It's a special day when Congressman Dingell walks through our doors and greets the men and women that this hospital, named in his honor, serves. We are always thrilled to mark these special occasions in his company," said Walker.

Rich Luterman is Chief Meteorologist at Fox 2, Detroit and also a Veteran. "Rich's presence really personalizes Veterans Day for so many of our patients and staff-members," said Walker. "It's great

to see someone of notoriety in our community come to our medical center to recognize his fellow Veterans and thank them for their service.”

Also present at this year’s event, the organization *Jackets for Jobs*, which will partner with area TJ Maxx stores to give away 100 purses to female Veterans who are on-hand for the program.

Since 1939, the Detroit VAMC has been improving the health of the men and women who have so proudly served our nation. In 1996, the medical center moved from Allen Park, Michigan to the current location in Detroit. The John D. Dingell VAMC located in Detroit, Michigan is one of the newest VA facilities in the country. We consider it our privilege to serve the health care needs of our Veterans. Services are available to more than 330,000 Veterans living in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, and St. Clair counties. This population represents approximately forty-four percent of the Veteran population in the lower peninsula of Michigan. For more information, visit <http://www.detroit.va.gov>.

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